

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/835,316

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application respectfully requested. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 2 and 4-15 are pending in the application. In response to the May 5, 2004 Office Action, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims define patentable subject matter.

Claims 1, 2, 4-15 stand rejected on prior art grounds. Claim 3 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 15 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 3. Accordingly, allowance of this application is now believed to be in order, and such action is hereby solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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Date: August 5, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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